

LIBRARY

URBAN DISTRICT
OF
KNOTTINGLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1957

U R B A N D I S T R I C T

O F

K N O T T I N G L E Y

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

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F O R T H E Y E A R

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B Y

J . F . F R A S E R .

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.



Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

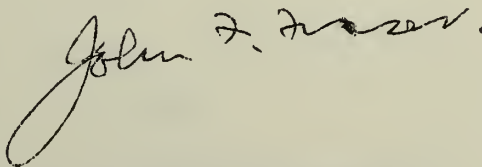
I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Urban District during the year 1957.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John F. Haver". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Medical Officer of Health.

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KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL 1957.

Chairman: Cr. A. Reynolds.

Vice-Chairman: Cr. J.T.D. Beaumont.

Cr. D.I. Bedford.

Cr. S. Burton.

Cr. J.E. Durkin J.P.

Cr. P. Gross.

Cr. J. Hannar.

Cr. E. Hodgson.

Cr. M. Nunns.

Cr. D. Pettitt.

Cr. W. Piper.

Cr. R. Rose.

Cr. J. Shay.

Cr. S.V. White.

Cr. R.P. Wilson.

Clerk to the Council:

E. Wigglesworth Esq.,

Medical Officer of Health:

John F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector:

Leslie Barber, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

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THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

P A R T O N E.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the District: 2835 acres.
 Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 10,800.
 Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1957: 3,411.
 Rateable value: 1957 - £81,233. 1956 - £82,131.
 Product of Penny Rate: 1957 - £309. 0. Od. 1956 - £311. 0. Od.
 These figures show a population increase of 70.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1956.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	103 (95)	92 (92)	195 (187)
Illegitimate	5 (5)	4 (5)	9 (10)
Total:-	<u>108 (100)</u>	<u>96 (97)</u>	<u>204 (197)</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population 18.9 (18.4)

Percentage of illegitimate live births 4.41. (5.07)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	3 (4)	4 (-)	7 (4)
Illegitimate.	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
	<u>3 (4)</u>	<u>5 (-)</u>	<u>8 (4)</u>

Rate per 1,000 (live and still births) 37.7 (19.9)

Rate per 1,000 estimated population .74 (.37)

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All Age Groups	59 (62)	44 (46)	103 (108)
<u>Infants under 1 yr.</u>			
Legitimate.	3 (3)	1 (2)	4 (5)
Illegitimate.	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)
	<u>4 (3)</u>	<u>2 (2)</u>	<u>6 (5)</u>

Maternal Deaths. NIL (NIL)

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population	9.5	(10.1)
All infants per 1,000 live births	29.4	(25.4)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	20.51	(26.73)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	NIL.	(NIL).

The number of births has increased by 7 as compared with last year, and the birth rate has risen from 18.4 to 18.9. Deaths have decreased by .5. The infant mortality rate is 29.4 as against 25.4 last year.

The principle causes of death are set out in the following Table:-

T A B L E I.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis - respiratory.	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - stomach.	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus.	-	1	1
Other Lymphatic & Malignant Neoplasm	6	4	10
Diabetes.	-	2	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	10	4	14
Coronary Disease - Angina.	7	2	9
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	-	3	3
Other Heart Disease.	7	5	12
Other circulatory disease.	4	5	9
Influenza.	-	3	3
Pneumonia.	2	3	5
Bronchitis.	6	1	7
Ulcer of Stomach & duodenum.	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	-	2
Congenital Malformations.	2	1	3
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	3	6	9
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	-	1	1
All other accidents.	1	3	4
TOTALS:-	59	44	103

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives the causes of infant deaths during 1957, classified into age groups:-

T A B L E II.

	Weeks.				Months.				- 1 yr.		
	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	M.	F.	T.
Arnold Chiari Syndrome. Hydrocephalus Meningomyelo-coele.			1						-	1	1
Shock Imperforate Anus.	1								1	-	1
Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus	1								1	-	1
Acute Meningitis & Acute Broncho Pneumonia.					1				1	-	1
Broncho Pneumonia.					1				1	-	1
Pneumonia.					1				-	1	1
TOTALS:-	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	4	2	6

The six deaths occurred in hospital, and they are all inward transfers.

T A B L E III.

COMPARISON OF KNOTTINGLEY VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Knott- ingley Urban Dist.	Aggregt. West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County.	England & Wales Provis. Figures
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	18.9	16.1	16.6	16.1
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) All Causes.	9.5	12.4	11.7	11.5
Infective & Para. Dis. excl. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D.	0.09	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.09
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis All Forms.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.11
Cancer.	1.48	1.99	1.87	2.09
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System.	1.30	2.15	1.95	*
Heart and Circulatory.	3.06	4.61	4.30	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.39	1.46	1.37	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births.)	-	0.41	0.51	0.47
Infant Mortality.	29.4	25.4	26.4	23.0
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births).	37.7	23.5	23.9	22.4

* Figures not available.

P A R T T W O.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, throughout the year.

T A B L E I V.

Disease.	Jan-Mar.	Apr-Jun.	Jul-Sept.	Oct-Dec.	Total	Deaths	To Hosp.
Scarlet Fever	7	19	8	12	46	Nil	36
Whooping Cough	2	27	-	3	32	"	1
Measles.	188	42	2	3	235	"	1
Dysentery.	5	1	-	1	7	"	2
Erysipelas.	1	-	-	-	1	"	1
Pneumonia.	5	6	4	2	17	1	3
Meningococcal Infection.	-	1	1	2	4	Nil	4
Food Poisoning.	-	1	-	2	3	"	3
TOTALS:-	208	97	15	25	345	1	51

Certain of the above figures
call for comment.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of scarlet fever reported during the year show an increase on those for last year from 25 to 46. Cases on the whole, though, are mild in character.

Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year. 105 children under the age of five years and 280 over five years received a full course of primary immunisation against the disease. In addition, 370 children received a reinforcing injection.

The need for immunisation remains as great as ever, if this killing disease is to be kept at bay.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons:-

T A B L E V.

Number of Cases in Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respty.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1957.	29	23	7	15	74
Notified for the first time during 1957.	1	1	-	-	2
Removed during 1957.	2	1	-	-	3
At end of 1957.	28	23	7	15	73

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

T A B L E VI.

Entries relating To:	Respiratory		Non-Respty.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have died.	1	-	-	-	1
Persons who have left the district.	-	1	-	-	1
Persons recovered.	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS:-	2	1	-	-	3

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of the disease.

T A B L E VII.

<u>Age Groups.</u>	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65 "	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

National Assistance Act - Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

Part III.

C O U N T Y C O U N C I L
O F T H E
W E S T R I D I N G O F Y O R K S H I R E.

D I V I S I O N 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough
Featherstone Urban District
Knottingley Urban District
Osgoldcross Rural District

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
D I V I S I O N A L M E D I C A L O F F I C E R

1957.

BY
J.F. FRASER,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31.12.57.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J.F. FRASER M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer
and School Medical Officer.

G.M. Mayhall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer and
School Medical Officer.

J.C. White M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.	Miss M.H. Osborne.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.	Miss B.K. Porter.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.	Mrs. M.K. Walsh.
Miss B.N. Kennington.	Miss B. Wright.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Miss L.O.I. Day.	Mrs. J.K. Smith
Miss M.W. Thornley.	(Clinic Nurse)

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Miss K. Ault.	Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. A. Atack.	Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Mrs. I. Bushell.	Miss C.A. Roberts.
Miss R.G. Fielder.	Mrs. J.R. Wilford.
Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief)	Miss M. Wright.
Mrs. B. Lister.	

Home Nurses.

Mrs. R.L. Copestake.	Miss E. Leach (Relief)
Miss A. Elsley.	Miss E. Lumley.
Mrs. F. Green.	Mrs. A. Moiser.

Home Nurse-Midwives.

Miss B.M. Butterworth	Miss J. Redfearn.
-----------------------	-------------------

Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. M. Myers.

Mental Health Home Teacher.

Mrs. G.J. Argile.

Speech Therapist.

Miss K. Wade.

Duly Authorised Officer.

Mr. G.F. Townsend.

Senior Clerk.

Mr. W. Carver.

INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under part III of the National Health Services Act.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1957 was 1106, an increase of 33 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 19.2 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 18.7 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.6 and the England and Wales birth rate of 16.1

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 592, an increase of 53 compared with 1956.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 10.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 9.4 for the previous year. Here again the death rate compares favourably with that for the West Riding Administrative Area which is 11.7 and for England and Wales 11.5

Infant Mortality.

In 1957 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 23, a decrease of one compared with the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 20.8 as against 22.4 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in the Divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1118 notified live births, 557 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 59 of these cases.

Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division:

Death of Mother	1.
Death of child.	2.
Still births.	7.
Artificial feeding.	118.
Liability to be a source of Infection	11.

Medical Assistance.

Medical aid notices sent in by midwives during 1957 numbered 117, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 72 cases. Pethidine only was given in 119 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 274 cases.

Ante Natal Clinics.

There are four ante-natal Clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 553 patients attended, of which 437 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 3554.

At all of these Clinics post-natal examinations are carried out and 182 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation Classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these Clinics during the year was 833.

Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this Division are admitted either to the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

No difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE.

In this Division, Infant Welfare sessions are held at seven fixed premises. The Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics are County owned premises, whilst the ones at Carleton, Ferrybridge, Streethouse and Beal are held in hired premises. A mobile Clinic visits four parishes in the Rural district and is proving very popular.

It is hoped to be able to extend the area of operation in the next year.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending at the Clinics:

Ostermilk	Virol
Trufood	Maltoline
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack.
Cow & Gate	Farex
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Groats
Horlicks	Robinson's Patent Barley
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bevril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the Clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 67 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division and 23 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups i.e. entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years+) continued throughout the year at the 54 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3343 periodic inspections were carried out. In addition 1450 special inspections and re-examinations were made. When it is considered that the school population is 10,000 it will be realised over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

General condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 91.12 were classified as satisfactory and only 8.88 as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness.

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 17,192 examinations of children in schools. Of these 421 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Mr. S.K. Sledge holds one session per week at the Pontefract Clinic at which children from all areas of the division attend. Due to the large numbers of children awaiting examination it has been necessary on occasions to hold additional sessions which have been held by Dr. J.V. Kirkwood, and during the year 1238 children were examined. Of these, 511 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Headlands Road Clinic for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 22 sessions and saw 119 children. In all, the children made 196 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Headlands Road Clinic, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 118 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 159.

Child Guidance Treatment.

Dr. S.M. Leese, Consultant Psychiatrist, holds Child Guidance Clinics at the County Health Department, Wakefield, and during the year 17 children from this area attended there.

Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months, Ultra Violet Ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Headlands Road Clinic, Pontefract. During the year, 95 children made 1203 attendances for this treatment.

Speech Therapy.

Miss K.M. Wade, Speech Therapist in this division, held 87 sessions at the Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics during the year. 38 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in Special Schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 29 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examination arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 9 examinations were made.

B.C.G. Vaccination Against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1957 the following work was undertaken in the division:-

<u>No. of consents issued</u>	<u>No. of consents Received</u>	<u>Mantoux Test</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive</u>
931	589	574	401	168

B.C.G. Vaccination.

400

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme to vaccinate against poliomyelitis all children born between 1947 and 1954 was continued during the year, although supplies of vaccine were limited. During the year, 1935 children received a complete course of protection from local Health Authority Medical Officers.

At the end of the year, the Government decided to extend the age groups of children to be dealt with so as to include all children born in the years 1943-1956 inclusive, and babies born in the first half of 1957. In addition, vaccination was to be offered to all expectant mothers.

In order that vaccination should proceed as quickly as possible, it was decided to import supplies of Salk vaccine from the United States of America and Canada. The first supplies were due to arrive at the beginning of 1958.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year the following number of visits were made by Health Visitors in the division:

<u>No. of children under 5 years of age visited during the year</u>	4407
Total visits made to expectant mothers	227
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age	6290
Total visits to children aged 1 & under 2 years	4114
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years	6044
Total visits to tuberculous households	1864
Total families or households visited	4576
Other cases visited	7525

HOME NURSING.

During the year 26,809 visits were paid by Home Nurses compared with 27,939 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	701	20,583
(2) Surgical	219	5,237
(3) Infectious Diseases	2	8
(4) Tuberculosis	25	946
(5) Maternal complications	6	35
TOTALS:-	953	26,809.
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	488	17,372
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	82	748
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	163	9,616

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| (a) Ill. | (d) Expectant Mother. |
| (b) Lying-in. | (e) Mental Defective. |
| (c) Aged. | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the Head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council Scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division was 27.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i)	Basic	27
(ii)	From Reserve Pool	-
(iii)	TOTAL	27

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December.

(i)	Whole-time	Nil
(ii)	Part-time	38
(iii)	TOTAL	38

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year
Ended 31st December.

	<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed</u>
(i) Maternity (Including expectant mothers)	48	3084
(ii) Tuberculosis	6	1512
(iii) Chronic sick - (a) aged 65 +	221	36895
(b) under 65	31	4021
(iv) Others	-	-
<u>TOTALS:-</u>	306	45512

Number of Home Helps that
could have been employed full-time 19.8

MENTAL HEALTH.

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committees. The nearest Occupation Centre to this area is at Castleford and at the end of the year 15 children from this area were attending there. For the children who were considered unsuitable for the Occupation Centre, group training classes are held twice weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics, where the Home Teacher, Mrs. Argile provides training in handicrafts of various sorts.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION PURPOSES

New entrants to the County Council Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 63 candidates. In addition, 2 members of the County Staff resident in the Divisional Area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1957.

BY
L. BARBER,
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
CONSTITUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.
1957/58.

CHAIRMAN:

Councillor P. Gross.

MEMBERS:

Councillor J.T.D. Beaumont.
Councillor Mrs. D.I. Bedford.
Councillor J. Hannar.
Councillor Mrs. M. Nunns.
Councillor W. Piper.
Councillor A. Reynolds, J.P.
Councillor J. Shay.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure, not unmixed with relief, that I present to you my third Annual Report covering the work of the Public Health and Cleansing Department during the year 1957.

Once again Slum Clearance and Food Hygiene have been our major pre-occupation but, as usual a number of important issues have been crowding in and demanding attention.

The principle of Clean Air has been declared nationally and locally and we in Knottingley have determined to be amongst the leaders in this field. The first Smoke Control Area is in preparation and a survey of factories has begun in readiness for the full implementation of the Act.

Re-organisation of Local Government is in the air once again and we must soon be bending our efforts towards ensuring our own survival as a autonomous unit. Financial re-organization, Block Grants, Credit Squeezes and, towards the end of the year the prospect of housing programmes being on "allocation" have all tended to bring degrees of uncertainty into Local Government.

No doubt, as in the past, we shall weather the storms and in a year or two shall be wondering what all the fuss was about. In the meantime we must just "soldier on" and hope for better things to come.

Weather and sickness all but broke the Refuse Collection system and added a further weight of trouble in the latter months of the year but fortunately, despite some not too well informed criticism we recovered, cleared up arrears of work and got back to normal by early 1958. Absenteeism still occasionally gives rise to trouble but labour disputes were non-existent during the year.

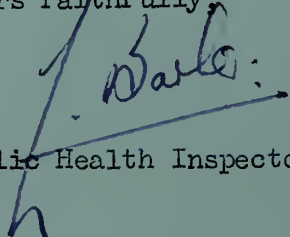
Our new Sewage Works seems as far off as ever but after twenty years of waiting patience has truly become a virtue.

Definite progress has been made in both Slum Clearance and Food Hygiene though the slowness in re-housing slum dwellers is causing concern and past experience of allocation of house building does little to temper these feelings. Both Members and Officials are united in their determination to end the eyesores of our central areas. Pray that our words can be translated into deeds, and that soon.

My thanks are due to all Council Members and Staff, and in particular to Cr. P. Gross, Chairman of the Public Health Committee for encouragement in achievement and forbearance in those less fortunate circumstances of the year.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,


Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
The Close,
Knottingley.
Yorks.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section 1 - Sanitary Circumstances

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supply to the district is purchased in bulk from Pontefract County Borough and is distributed by the Knottingley Urban District Council.

The water, taken from three boreholes, is chlorinated at source and is of consistently good quality. The hardness of the water, both temporary and permanent, occasionally proves to be inconvenient, particularly in water heating appliances, but the problem is far from insuperable and complaints are few and far between.

Only four dwellinghouses of a total of 3,384 are not now connected to the mains supply. Samples of bacteriological examination of the private supplies have, to date, been satisfactory.

A copy of the Public Analyst's Report on a sample of mains water is appended below.

Sample of Mains Water

Chemical Analysis

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Total Solids.	360
Chloride.	20
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ .	116
Total Hardness.	160
Permanent Hardness.	44
Temporary Hardness.	116
Lead, Copper, Zinc.	Nil
Iron.	Nil
Manganese.	Nil
Free Ammonia.	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia.	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen.	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen.	6.1
pH	7.4

This water is of good organic purity.

(Signed) F.W.M. Jaffe.

RICHARDSON & JAFFE.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Water borne sanitation is available to over 99% of the houses in the Urban District.

Attempts are being made to abolish privies and privy middens wherever possible by making maximum possible grants under the Public Health Act, 1936 and the Housing Acts, 1949-54. Three houses have been converted to water carriage this year and in each case a cesspool has been provided.

There are now 28 cesspools serving 39 houses, one school and part of one factory in the town. Two of the houses still using cesspools have, in fact, the sewer available.

The surface water and soil drainage system in Knottingley is partly very new and partly very old and is, on this account, far from being consistent in size and efficiency. The slum clearance and development schemes are slowly ridding the district of its worst drainage features but progress is necessarily slow.

The whole of the Knottingley Urban District sewage and part of the surface water passes through the Council's two main sewage works. A further small works now acts as a settlement and pumping station only.

Both works are grossly overloaded and a reasonably good effluent is only attainable by thoroughly cleansing the main settlement tanks each week. Should this cleansing be missed the effluent deteriorates rapidly.

In times of storm the pumping station must close down and rely on the sewers themselves to act as storm water tanks, often resulting in complaints from one low lying area of the town. One sewage works occasionally has no outfall at all owing to the river being higher than the works in times of flood.

The Council's plans for a modern sewage disposal plant are materializing and should reach Public Enquiry stage during the current year but, in view of the prevailing financial climate appear to be unlikely to reach fruition in the near future.

I can only repeat the heart cries of my colleagues elsewhere and beg that when money is allowed for projects (e.g. new houses, factories etc.) which must increase the flow of sewage and liquors requiring treatment, a sum be allowed for additional treatment plant.

If the Ministry cannot allow smaller Authorities money for this purpose why not combine natural or adjoining drainage areas into Joint Boards and let them spend the money on a regional basis. Jealous as we all are of our local autonomy and prestige, surely the health and well-being of the community is infinitely more precious to us. A little pride foregone now may result in greater pride of achievement later.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disinfection of premises where infectious disease has occurred is carried out by this Department and supplies of disinfectant are still issued free to ratepayers on request.

Little is heard nowadays of "Stoving" and burning of bedding but whilst the method of disinfection has altered, the end remains the same - Freedom from Disease - and the success of these efforts is very evident when the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report is compared with one of say, 30 years ago.

DIRTY AND VERMINIOUS PREMISES.

A number of dirty houses, some of which I regret to say were Council Houses, were inspected during the year and in most cases some improvement in conditions was achieved. Unfortunately lack of time prevented really constant and continuing surveillance and some of these cases are now as if never visited. A few continue the improvement but, the results obtained rarely sustain one's optimism and often merely result in a feeling that, if all men are equal, thank goodness most are more equal than the others.

Verminous premises, like the poor, are always with us but bed bugs, apart from some well dug in infestations in very old property, are slowly dying out. The main infestations these days appear to be of Ants, Cockroaches, and Clover Mites. These latter insects have, over the last two years, shared headlines in the newspaper "Silly Season" with Flying Saucers, and Hints to Spring Brides. The permanent cure appears to be digging ones garden or keeping a closely cropped lawn. A less permanent but more widely used cure, is to have the Public Health Department spray the offending garden and house with various Insecticides and allow nature full sway over the herbage.

A list of the major infestations dealt with during the year is given below.

Infestation.	No. Treated.	Reinfestations.
Ants.	28	1
Bed-bugs.	11	-
Cockroaches.	18	3
Clover Mites.	12	4
Silverfish.	9	-

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No. of 30 minute smoke observations.	18
No. of Intimation Notices served.	2
No. of complaints received.	17
No. of Factories visited.	31

As mentioned in my last Annual Report the Clean Air Act is on the Statute Book and Local Authorities now have power to bring about a great and lasting change in that most important of the Elements - Air. Environmental Health i.e. Prevention of disease can receive its greatest fillip of this century if the Government and the enforcing Local Authorities really mean business and set about securing the co-operation - willing if possible - of householders and industrialists.

At the latter end of the year the Council agreed in principle to make all the district south of the Pontefract-Goole Railway a Smoke Control Area. One large housing estate of some 350 dwellings and shops, both Council and privately owned, was chosen as the pilot scheme and work has been continued on this into the current year.

The Council also adopted Byelaws concerning Approved Appliances in new property and it is hoped that before long they will also include the burning of Smokeless Fuel as a condition of tenancy in certain new Council properties.

These steps are but the beginning, and should only be regarded as such, in our campaign against Air Pollution, be it in the form of Smoke, Smog or what is legally known as Effluvia and more commonly Smells.

The provisions with regard to Industry are not yet in force but if the Act is to be fully operative by 1963 this cannot be long delayed.

Figures for atmospheric pollution in the Ferrybridge and Hill Top areas of Knottingley together with the average pollution figures of four other sites just outside the Urban District boundaries are given below. These figures are the last that will be obtained before the Ferrybridge 'B' Station comes into at least partial operation.

Once again there is a definite downward trend in the figures which may be attributable to the gradual running down of the older Power Station plant. Apart from these figures it is interesting to note that rainfall varied from 1 millimetre i.e. 1/25 inch in April to 108 mms. i.e. 3.1/3 inches in August with an average of 1.9 inches per month, although some of these figures may, owing to the method of collection, be held in doubt.

Sulphur pollution increases sharply and, in fact, doubles, in October when the very old part of the Power Station is brought into use and falls again by half in April when the old station to all intents and purposes shuts down. Strangely enough the deposits of both Soluble and Insoluble Matter are much higher during the summer months than during the remainder of the year.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

AVERAGE MONTHLY DEPOSITS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1956 & 1957.

Instrument Site.	Tons per square mile.						SULPHUR	
	Soluble.		Insoluble.		Total.		Mgms/day/100 cms.	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
Holmfields.	5.55	4.9	8.88	8.82	14.43	13.72	0.918	0.686
Warren Ave.	4.74	3.86	6.43	5.31	11.17	9.17	1.522	1.36
Av. of 4 other sites around Power Station.	4.71	4.23	6.86	6.48	11.57	10.71	1.40	1.39

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There is one licensed caravan site in the district only. During the year it was extended somewhat and will now take 36 caravans. The number on site has fluctuated from 15 to 36 and at the moment it is fully occupied.

Mains water is available to standpipes or direct into the caravan. Electricity is available both for lighting and power purposes. Individual chemical closets are used by each caravan and the contents emptied into a cesspool which is emptied weekly.

Poor access for caravans is the site's worst feature but as it is used mainly for residential rather than holiday or touring caravans this does not constitute a major handicap.

A few caravans were parked on unlicensed sites for periods of from 2 to 10 weeks and two caravans were licensed to use unlicensed sites.

Gipsy caravans continued to provide an occasional headache. Three cases had legal action threatened and after two of these had left a complaint was laid against the third. This had the desired result and no further action was necessary.

RODENT CONTROL.

This important aspect of Public Health work is still carried out on a part time basis by the Council's Mechanic/Rodent Operator.

During the year under review a considerable increase in survey work was achieved although, strangely enough, exactly the same number of infestations were treated as were treated during 1956. Of these infestations a greater proportion this year were of rats discovered by survey and fewer infestations were notified, these being mainly of mice.

Eight rechargeable treatments were carried out, the costs ranging from just over £1.0.0d to over £15.0.0d. This income is deducted from the total cost of Rodent Control and the balance carries a 50% Ministry Grant. This grant covers wages, materials, equipment and transport. Unfortunately the time spent on this service by your Public Health Inspector does not rank for a grant as a grant of 50% of his total salary is received separately.

The number of Block Control schemes was doubled during 1957 and as this is by far the most effective method of clearing rats we should see the benefit during the current year.

Sewer control was maintained during the year and the only infestation found was in the old North Knottingley (Aire Street - Cow Lane), sewer system. This is extremely gratifying and points to the good coverage of our surveys and Block Control schemes.

Liaison is maintained with the Ministry and their Research Section through the West Riding (No. 1) Workable Area Committee for Rodent Control, to whose Executive Committee I have the honour of being appointed. Reports on rodent borne disease and on Protective Clothing for Operators were drawn up by a sub-committee of which I was a member, but in the case of your Rodent Operator all the recommendations had been in force some time already.

I give below a statistical report on Rodent Control, a copy of the Annual Return made to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1958.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				Agric.
	Non-Agricultural.				
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (inc. Business Premises).	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3.	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	14	3235	417	3665	30
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	3	48	3	54	-
(b) Survey under the Act	18	73	56	147	6

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses).	All other (inc. Business Premises).	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3.	Agric.
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	6	136	31	173	5
3. Total inspections carried out (inc. re- inspections)	133	455	130	718	19
. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 11) found infested by:					
(a)					
Major.	-	-	1	1	-
Rats Minor.	6	63	3	72	2
(b)					
Major.	-	-	-	-	-
Mice Minor.	-	19	3	22	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	6	72	7	95	-
6. Total treatments done inc. re-treatments.	10	93	8	111	-
7. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:					
(a)					
Treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
(b)					
Structural Work (i.e. proofing)	-	-	4	4	-
8. Number of cases in which default action taken after Sec. 4 notice.	-	-	-	-	-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses).	All other (inc. Business Premises).	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3.	Agric.
9. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
10. Block Control schemes done.	13.				

FACTORIES.

I give below a copy of the Annual Report made to the Ministry of Labour and National Service which shows the visits made and sanitary defects found and remedied during 1957.

These figures do not include visits in respect of Rodent Control (given elsewhere), in respect of Means of Escape in case of fire, nor of visits in respect of smoke and noxious effluvia both of which will be found in the summary of visits at the end of the report.

Twenty four factories have need of Certificates of Means of Escape and by the end of the year fifteen had carried out the necessary alterations and had been issued with up-to-date Certificates. The remaining nine are being inspected in collaboration with the Fire Safety Officer of the Castleford Division of the West Riding Fire Service.

FACTORIES ACT RETURN.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are to be enforced by L.A.s.	4	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	38	60	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (Excl. outworkers' premises.)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	42	70	4	-

The above inspections are for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature. (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation. (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient.	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	7	-	-	-

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Section 2. Housing.

NEW HOUSES.

The number of new houses completed within the Urban District hit a new low this year and for the first time since post-war building operations began, the number of houses demolished exceeded the number of new dwellings provided.

Reasons for the fall in numbers are easy to find e.g. the changeover from development of large, virgin sites to small, uncleared central sites; the change of emphasis to Slum Clearance; capital restrictions and what is probably the most obvious reason of all, the completion of 32 dwellings just too late to be included in this year's figures. Nevertheless, these 32 houses were part of the year's programme and should not be forgotten when assessing the efforts of the past year.

The Local Authority actually completed by the 31st December, 1957 12 houses and 6 more were provided by private builders. The programme for the year was 44 but owing to a combination of circumstances 1958 will get credit for the major part of this construction.

During 1958 we found ourselves once again on Housing Allocation and at the time of writing our prospects for the year appear very poor indeed. This does not bode well for our Slum Clearance programme and we may find ourselves forced into accepting a period of even years between the making of orders on property and the re-housing of the occupants. The plight of people living in condemned property for two to three years during which not even patching repairs are done can become desperate and we in Knottingley must, for the next few years, build a minimum of 70 houses per year to satisfy our existing housing demand.

OVERCROWDING.

No case of statutory overcrowding was reported to this Department during 1957. Overcrowding in its strict legal sense appears to be virtually eliminated in the town but bedroom overcrowding certainly does exist. The Council are trying, by dint of building bungalows, one bedroom flats, maisonettes etc., to take elderly couples, widows and widowers out of family houses and thus allow a better distribution of existing accommodation.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Ten Improvement Grants were made during the year to secure modernisation of existing property. This maintains the average of previous years and makes a total of 81 grants since the scheme was inaugurated in 1949.

Three properties were acquired by the Council for grant aided modernisation and it is hoped that these houses will be included in the 1958 programme.

UNFIT HOUSES.

During 1957 a total of 35 houses were represented as being suitable for Demolition Orders. 29 Orders were actually made, and 31 houses were demolished.

As mentioned in last year's Report, however, this does not cover the whole of the clearance work carried out by your Council. Certificates of Unfitness were accepted in respect of 17 houses previously purchased in lieu

of demolition procedure, 7 undertakings not to relet were accepted, 4 other houses were purchased for demolition and 3 for modernisation, making a total of 60 houses dealt with during the year.

Negotiations were also begun for houses and land necessary for the re-development of both central Knottingley and Ferrybridge.

Many owners, knowing that their houses will be receiving attention in connection with our Slum Clearance programme actually anticipate us, and offer to negotiate the sale of land and property in advance of any formal action. Although negotiations are sometimes lengthy and a trial to the officials (and to some members) it appears to me to be an excellent method from our point of view as, even after Demolition Orders have been made, the land must eventually be acquired, either by negotiation or by Compulsory Purchase.

If, therefore, voluntary (sic) negotiation provides the same end, without delay or use of statutory power, it should certainly be encouraged.

HOUSING STATISTICS 1957.

Number of dwelling houses in District.....3384.....

Number of back-to-back houses included in above...22.approximately.....

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....102.....

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose....434.....

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head) (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations.....7.....

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose....7.....

(3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action:-

(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation....62.....

(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation
.....27.....

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

(a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....4.....

(b) Number of defective dwelling houses (excluding those shown in (a) above) in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action.....32.....

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs.....7.....

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners T.....

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....T.....

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....3.....

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners.....3.....

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.....T.....

C. Proceedings under the Housing Acts 1936 and 1957.

(Demolition Orders)

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation.....35.....

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....29.....

(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....31.....

(4) Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953? If so, what? ...No.....

D. Proceedings under the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957.

(Closing Orders)

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....T.....

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....T.....

E. Proceedings under the Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957, and the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. (Clearance Areas)

(1) Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year.....T.....

(2) Number of houses included in these areas.....T.....

(3) Number of persons to be displaced.....T.....

(4) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas:-

(a) by Clearance Orders, number made.....T.....

(b) by Compulsory Purchase Orders, number made...T.....

(5) Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year T.....

(6) Number of persons re-housed from houses demolished during the year.....T.....

4. Overcrowding.

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein.....
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein.....
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases.....

There is no relevant information available on overcrowding.

5. New Houses.

Number of new houses provided during the year:-

By the Local Authority..12..... By Private Enterprise....6.....

6. Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Rent Act, 1957.

Details of Advances for the purpose of acquiring or constructing houses.....7.....

Details of Grants for conversion of buildings into houses, or for altering, enlarging, repairing, or improving houses.....10.....

Supplementary Remarks.

- 3.(c) In addition to the houses included in the answers to 3 (c) (1) and (2) my Council took the following action:
 - (a) Accepted Certificates of Unfitness given by the Medical Officer of Health in respect of 17 houses previously purchases by the Council, in lieu of Demolition Orders.
 - (b) Accepted undertakings to close and demolish after vacation, in respect of 7 houses.
 - (c) Purchased by negotiation 4 houses for subsequent demolition (in addition to those in (a) above).
 - (d) Purchased by negotiation 3 houses for modernisation by the Council.
- 6. Advances under S.D.A.A. 1899-1923.....8.....

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Section 3 - Food Inspection and Control

Slaughterhouses

The Knottingley Urban District is self supporting in the matter of meat supplies, five private slaughterhouses being in use for this purpose.

A further slaughterhouse is in use for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. The majority of the horses are exported to Belgium and the remainder are sent to a nearby town for sale in horseflesh shops there.

All the slaughterhouses have hot and cold water, cooling rooms and, where necessary, separate making up rooms. Two of these slaughterhouses are probably comparable with any small private slaughterhouses in use today. The remainder comply with the requirements of present legislation but their future is open to doubt.

Meat Inspection

All the animals slaughtered within the Urban District and intended for human consumption are inspected post mortem. Owing to the fact that slaughtering times are irregular and the fact that all horses slaughtered for export must be seen alive, this work tends to be time consuming and ranks as the largest single task of the Department. This work is vital, unpleasant at times and cannot always be carried out in office hours.

The meat inspector's decisions are open to query and the butcher has the right of a second opinion from an expert of his own choosing. Insurance can be effected on the animals purchased but not so as to cover partial condemnation of a carcass. The inspector's decisions, therefore, affects the butcher's financial standing, his own reputation and professional integrity and the health of people both local and perhaps, hundreds of miles away. There must be no delay nor uncertainty about his decision and there can be no "I'll write you later" or "I'll pop in again tomorrow" to gain time for a quick scan through the standard works to set one's mind at rest. Yet despite all this, a reputation for fair and impartial judgement has been built up through the years by Inspector's over the whole country and butchers have learned to respect the decisions of the man with the knife.

During the year a case of Swine Fever was found in a gilt slaughtered locally. The Police and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were notified, the case was confirmed and traced back to a local pig keeper who lost all his stock as a result.

Organs and meat condemned or surrendered are coloured green and, like inedible offals, are collected by fertiliser and other by-product manufacturers.

Cysticercus Bovis is treated by deep freeze in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations.

My thanks are again due to the Csgoldcross Rural District Council and Castleford Municipal Borough Council Public Health Inspector's for carrying out meat inspections in my absence.

I give below statistical tables summarizing meat inspection during 1957.

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.	Total.
No. Killed.	496	60	-	1938	778	1034	4306
No. Inspected.	496	60	-	1938	778	1034	4306
<u>All diseases except T.B. & Cysticerci.</u>	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Whole carcasses condemned.							
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned.	9	3	-	24	10	151	197
Percentage of number inspected affected by disease other than T.B. & Cysticerci.	1.81	5	-	1.21	1.41	14.60	4.62
	Cattle excl. cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.	Total.
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	13	14	-	-	21	-	48
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	2.62	23.33	-	-	2.83	-	1.14
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	3	3	-	-	-	-	6
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	3	3	-	-	-	-	6
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Carcases condemned as unfit for human consumption.

1	Pig (complete)	-	Swine Fever.
1	Pig (complete)	-	Tuberculosis.
1	Sheep (complete)	-	Emaciation.
<u>Organs and part carcases affected by Tuberculosis.</u>			

Bovine.

Pairs of Lungs.	-	15.	Rib Oysters.	-	4.
Heads.	-	12.	Briskets.	-	4.
Kidneys.	-	4.	Livers.	-	8.

Pigs.

Livers.	-	7.	Heads.	-	20.
Sides.	-	1.	Lungs.	-	10.

Organs and part carcases affected by other diseases.

Bovine.

Leg.	-	1. Fat necrosis.	Livers.	-	3. Sepsis.
Heads.	-	3. Actinomycosis.			10. Parasitic.
		6. C. Bovis.	Hearts.	-	6. C. Bovis.
Lungs.	-	2. Congestion.	Skirts.	-	12. C. Bovis.

Sheep.

Livers.	-	20. Parasitic.	Lungs.	-	6. Parasitic.
					4. Pneumonia.

Pigs.

Livers.	-	5. Parasitic.	Hearts.	-	2. Pneumonia.
Lungs.	-	4. Parasitic.	Kidneys.	-	3. Cystic.
		4. Pneumonia.			

Horses.

Livers.	-	151. Parasitic.	Lungs.	-	8. Parasitic.
Flanks.	-	2. Inflammation.	Kidneys.	-	10. Cystic.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949/1954.

I give below the numbers of licences issued by the Local Authority under the above regulations for the year 1957.

Dealers.

T.T.	8
Pasteurised.	9
Sterilised.	18

Supplementary.

T.T.	3
Pasteurised.	4
Sterilised.	3

No milk samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination, during the year owing to pressure of work in other directions.

Ice-cream.

Two retailers relinquished their registration during the year and there are now 18 registered retail premises and one producer-retailer in the district.

The producer-retailer has been experiencing difficulty in keeping up to the necessary bacteriological examination standard, mainly due to faulty sterilising technique, but appears to be making some slow improvement in his methods.

Food Hawkers.

All food hawkers in the Urban District are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951 Section 76.

Before registration all vehicles must have a self contained hot water supply a sink, soap and towel.

13 Hawkers have now been registered of which 3 have been registered to trade in vegetables only. Four of these were registered during the year after complying with the Council's requirements.

Food Premises.

I give below a list of food premises in the district.

Registered Section 16, Food and Drugs Act 1956.

For the sale or storage for sale of ice-cream.	18.
For the manufacture of ice-cream.	1.
For the preparation of sausages or preserved food.	8.

Other food premises.

Butchers.	10.
Cafes.	5.
Fish and Chip shops.	14.
Ice-cream Manufacturers.	1.
Ice-cream Retailers.	18.
Food preparing premises.	8.
Bakehouses.	2.
Slaughterhouses.	6.
Clubs and licenced premises.	28.
Other Food Shops.	61.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

With the exception of three, all food shops in the area now comply with the spirit of the above regulations. The spirit is sometimes weak and needs overmuch encouragement but at least it is there. More and more retailers are, however, being forced to face the economic facts of competition and this is heaven sent assistance to the hygienist. The old advertising maxim "Clear, Bright, Simple" as the basis of good mass salesmanship is proving to be equally adaptable to the more intimate and personal salesmanship of the shopkeeper.

Thus, open topped refrigeration cabinets, bright, easily cleaned chrome and glass display cabinets and glossy, light coloured paints are gradually beginning to impress themselves upon the competitive and forward looking trader.

As a passing comment upon this competition I would say that it is somewhat distressing to find the grocer, the butcher and, to some extent, the greengrocer, going into each others trade. Rivalry inside a trade is good for us all but overstepping the boundary between different types of shops can, in the end, be dangerous both to the shopkeepers pocket and the public health.

During the year a complete survey of all Public Houses, 21 in all, was carried out to check on provision of conveniences, degree of compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations and the general state of repair of the living quarters. A very sorry state of affairs was revealed. Only 8 houses could claim to be reasonably equipped and maintained. Sanitary conveniences were shared by patrons of both sexes in some houses and even with the occupants of adjoining cottage property.

Access to the conveniences was deplorable in many cases and only the barest concessions were made to modesty.

Beer cellars were undrained, damp and dirty. Living accommodation was inadequate and ill-maintained and washing and serving facilities barely adequate for the unhurried business of midweek.

Talks were put in hand immediately with the various managements and urgent repairs executed with a minimum of delay. A tentative programme of modernization was drawn up and at the time of writing one house has been closed (after transfer of licence to a new, modern structure) one house has been slightly modernized and the contract for extensive modernization of a third has been let.

This programme, will it is hoped, be pushed forward as rapidly as economics permit and a close watch will be kept on its progress.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

SECTION 4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

The Council are responsible for the collection and disposal of domestic refuse throughout the district. With the exception of a few properties in the outlying, unsewered parts of the district, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. B.S.S. dustbins are in general use. With bins of this size an efficient and regular collection must be maintained and I must express my thanks to the Public Cleansing employees for their willingness and, in fact determination to maintain at all costs a regular weekly collection. No praise is too high for the way these men tackle an uncongenial job in a consistently cheerful manner.

The 16/18 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipper came into operation during the year, replacing two 5 ton side loaders. The workmen prefer the rear loading vehicle but the extra walking involved caused some weary legs during the first month or two of its operation. Economies both in man power and fuel resulted from the bringing into operation of this vehicle and it has also resulted in less dust and nuisance during bin emptying.

An extremely bad winter, coupled with an epidemic of "Asian 'Flu" all but crippled the collection service towards the latter end of the year. On odd days only two men were at work and on one day not one driver was available. Over a period of three to four months the sickness rate averaged 38% and for one period of four weeks it was 66%.

In full employment conditions as they exist today replacement labour was practically unobtainable and other departments were unable to loan out men as they themselves were understaffed for the same reasons. Overtime was almost out of the question due to the inclement weather and the state of collection became the despair of officials and men.

Fortunately, whilst we have no budding Einsteins on our Staff, we do have a good loyal core of men who stuck at the job and gradually, as conditions improved, got the rounds back to normal.

Heated lockers for clothes storage and drying were provided during the year and a scheme for washing facilities for the men and a concrete vehicle washing area have been accepted and put in hand. Amenities such as these, together with the issue of Protective Clothing all help to settle the workmen and keep a willing team together. Suitable labour is hard to get and harder to retain, wage rates are fixed nationally and amenities therefore are really the only variable factor and upon them largely depends our ability to recruit our staff.

The scale of Protective Clothing is as below:-

Issue per man.

1 Mackintosh $\frac{3}{4}$ length coat.	Every fourth year.
1 pair Armoured Boots.	Every second year.
2 Pairs Overalls.	Annually.
Gloves.	As required.
Goggles.	As required.

A summary of the weekly task is given below:-

No. of Dustbins emptied.	3590
No. of Ashpits.	6
No. of Privy middens.	12
No. of Pail closets.	33
Approx. Annual Tonnage.	3495

Refuse Disposal.

All refuse continues to be tipped at the Headlands Disposal site in the centre of town.

This site now belongs to a local Contractor who is allowing us, to our mutual benefit, to tip up the low lying parts of the site. Owing to his own tipping and building activities however, the life of the tip has been considerably shortened and other sites are now under constant review.

Covering material has been in short supply during the year but by using the tractor as much as possible a good top has been achieved. The face however is not covered as often nor as completely as we would wish.

Continuing the policy of prevention rather than cure insecticides and rodenticides have been extensively used and infestations have remained at an extremely low level.

Cesspools and Sewage.

The Cesspool and Gully emptier continued to be fully employed during the year. Its major task however, is the removal of the semi-liquid sludge from the sewage works settling tanks. This takes up two full days every week leaving three and a half days for its primary functions on cesspools, road gullies and sewer flushing.

The crew also undertake the clearing of drains to Council property, sewers and, upon re-payment, the cleansing of private drains.

PART FIVE.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

1957.

Accumulations	18
Canal Boats.	9
Cesspools.	29
Drainage Inspections.	33
Privy Conversions.	15
Drainage Tests.	19
Factories Mechanical.	60
Factories Non-mechanical.	10
Means of Escape in case of Fire.	28
Licensed Premises.	73
Nuisance Inspections.	147
Piggeries and Stables.	18
Refuse Collection.	57
Refuse Disposal.	89
Rodent Control.	69
Schools.	14
Smoke Observations.	18
Smoke Visits.	33
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	87
Water Supplies.	16
Food Inspection.	12
Shops Act Inspections.	19
Butchers.	42
Grocers.	115
Fried Fish.	18
Other Food Shops.	83
Canteens.	15
Ice-cream Premises.	28
Food preparing Premises.	61
Bakehouses.	52
Milk Distributors.	41
Hawkers.	37
Meat Inspection.	689
Slaughterhouses.	29
Houses Inspected. (Public Health and Housing Acts.)	102
Revisits.	152
Unfit Houses.	180
Dirty and Verminous Premises.	25
Infectious Disease.	57
Interviews.	501
Housing Consolidated Regulations. Houses Recorded.	-
Overcrowding.	7
Miscellaneous.	60
Total.	3167

SUMMARY OF NOTICES.

1957.

Informal.

	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied with.</u>
Public Health Act, 1936.	73	69
Food and Drugs Act.	20	12
Factories Act.	4	4
Shops Act.	3	3

Statutory.

Public Health Act, 1936.	2	3
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Two dustbins were provided by the Council upon default of owners to comply with notices under the above Public Health Act.

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

1957.

Exterior.

Paths repaired.	2
Privy Conversions.	3
Walls pointed.	4
Walls rendered.	1
Eaves Gutters repaired.	5
Fall pipes renewed.	1
Drains relaid.	2
cleansed.	39
Roofs repaired.	9
Water Closets repaired.	4
renewed.	1
Doors and Windows repaired.	9
Dustbins renewed.	12
Accumulations removed.	4

Interior.

Plaster. Walls.	5
Ceilings.	4
Ranges repaired.	1
Floors repaired.	1
Waste pipes renewed.	2
Water pipes repaired.	2
Stairs repaired.	4

Food Premises.

Internal plaster repaired.	3
Cold Water provided.	6
Hot Water provided.	11
Soap and towels provided.	6
Sinks provided.	7
Preparation Rooms provided.	1
Food Store Ratproofed.	1
Food Shops. decorated.	3
Drainage.	4
Fly proofing and ventilating.	1
Refrigerators provided.	1
Artificial lighting.	1
Hanging Room.	1

Factories.

Sanitary Conveniences. Cleansed.	3
Repaired.	3
Provided.	1
Means of Escape in case of fire.	4





